

**Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management
RI Trails Advisory Committee**

Meeting Minutes- amended

June 10, 2014

**USDA Conference Room
60 Quaker Lane
Warwick, RI 02886**

In Attendance:

Gregg J. Cassidy RI DEM, Planning & Development

Steven Church RI DOT

Steve Hogan Gun Owners Political Action Committee

Gail A. Hogan Rhode Island Rifle & Revolver Association, Inc.

Barbara Maley Federal Highway- Rhode Island

Roy Najecki RI Land Trust Council

Lisa Primiano RI DEM, Planning & Development

Denise Poyer Wood Pawcatuck Watershed Association

Bob Butler NE Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs

Martha Cruciani Appalachian Mountain Club

Meg Kerr Blueways Alliance

Henry Cruciani Appalachian Mountain Club

Ken Burke Welcome House of South County

Eugenia Marks Audubon Society of RI

Alicia Lehrer Woonasquatucket River Watershed County

Kevin Nelson RI Statewide Planning

William Bivona Narragansett Tree Society

Dan Dunn Welcome House of South County

Harvey Buford Hopkinton Land Trust

Jay B. Aron RIDEM, Forestry

Peter Gengler International Mountain Bike Association

Meeting called to order at 2:00PM.

1. Introductions:

Barbara Maley introduced herself. She works for FHWA and is filling in for Corey Bobba, who is on assignment.

2. Meeting Minutes

Review of meeting minutes for the May 20th meeting will be deferred until the August 19th meeting.

3. Small Grant Requests

o Welcome House of South County. Education Grant. \$5000.00. Ken Burke provided an overview of the Organization's mission, which is to provide shelter for people in transition. The facility is located near the William C. O'Neil bike path in Peacedale and they have an under utilized garage available for use as a bike shop/education center. The goal of the proposed education program would be to promote stewardship and better use of the bike path. Henry Cruciani asked for a breakdown of the budget. Ken Burke clarified that the employee costs budgeted are for a contractor, not an existing employee, match would be provided by private funds. Kevin Nelson if there were enough funds allowed for education grants to pay for this grant. Steve Church assured him there was. Roy Najecki made a motion to approve the grant request, seconded by Peter Gengler. Grant Request Approved. Unanimous.

o Hopkinton Land Trust- Grills Preserve Trailhead improvement. \$3000.00. Harvey Buford described the project, which involves removing existing material from the parking lot and adding crushed stone. Jay Aron stated that excavation may trigger the need for a Section 106 review. This would have to be done before any work can begin. Lisa Primiano stated that since the project is near the Wood River he should contact DEM, Wetlands. Denise Poyer made a motion to approve the grant request contingent upon Section 106 approval. Meg Kerr seconded the motion. Grant Request Approved. Unanimous.

o Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council. Education Grant. \$5000.00. Alicia Lehrer summarized the project: it is a continuation of their previous program and is focused on educating Bike Path users in Providence about trail safety. Each session is one week long; there are eight sessions with 10 children in each session. Lisa Primiano clarified that grant can't be used to purchase refreshments. Henry Cruciani asked that a set of formalized goals be developed to evaluate what is being taught. Meg Kerr made a motion to approve the project, seconded by Henry Cruciani. Grant Request Approved. Unanimous.

o Richmond Rural Preservation Land Trust- Stetson Preserve Trail. \$250.00. Denise Poyer provided details on the project, which involves a local Boy Scout, constructed a trail on Stetson preserve. The grant will cover the cost of benches, trail marking paint and other materials. Gail Hogan made a motion to approve the grant request as presented, seconded by Bob Butler. Grant Request Approved. Unanimous.

o Wood Pawcatuck Watershed Association- clearing blue way trail. \$3000.00. Denise Poyer provided details about this grant request which involves clearing trees that have blown across the Wood River blocking canoe and kayak passage. They will use the grant to hire a contractor. Jay Aron mentioned, because of new regulations, they may need a permit from DEM/Fish & Wildlife. Motion to approve the grant request was made by Meg Kerr, seconded by Roy Najecki.

Grant Request Approved. Unanimous.

o DEM/Forestry. Brook Trail ADA fishing Access. \$2,573.57. Jay Aron provided details on the project which involves constructing a platform from the parking lot to the Wood River. Kevin Nelson made a motion to approve the project, seconded by Peter Gengler. Grant Request Approved.

o Narragansett Tree Society- Canochet trail safety rail. \$900.00. Bill Bivona described the project which involves installing safety rails on the bridge crossing Crooked Brook. Roy Najecki questioned the proposed design since during high water it is likely the bridge will be pushed off the foundation. Henry Cruciani suggested an alternative design using truss handrails that is sturdy, weather resistant, and may be cheaper to construct. Roy Najecki made a motion to approve a grant; up to \$900.00 using pressure treated 2 x 4's to construct a safety rail. Seconded by Bob Butler. Grant Request Approved.

Motion to Adjourn made by Roy Najecki, seconded by Jay Aron. Approved. Adjourn at 3:15.

Next Meeting:

August 18, 2014 @ 3:00 PM

NRCS Conference Room

60 Quaker Lane

Warwick, RI 02888